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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/937,314	12/06/2001	Veronique Ferrari	05725.0932	8380
22852	7590	05/19/2004	EXAMINER	
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 1300 I STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20005			VENKAT, JYOTHSNA A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1615	

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/937,314

Applicant(s)

FERRARI, VERONIQUE

Examiner

JYOTHSNA A VENKAT

Art Unit

1615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 April 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.
- 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 140-146 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 140-146 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/6/01, 4/1/04
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

Art Unit: 1615

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of IDS, preliminary amendment, second preliminary amendment and terminal disclaimer, third preliminary amendment and IDS filed on 12/6/01; 3/14/02; 2/27/04 and 4/1/04. The preliminary amendment cancelled claims 1-42 and added claims 43-132. The second preliminary amendment canceled claims 43-132 and added claims 133-153. The third preliminary amendment canceled claims 133-139, and 147-153. Claims 140-146 are pending in the application and the status of the application is as follows:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 143-144 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. **This is new matter rejection.**

3. There is no support in the specification for wherein said mascara “ further comprises PVP”. The support at page 33, line 15 is for “ vinylpyrrolidone copolymer”. Vinylpyrrolidone copolymer is formed from vinylpyrrolidone monomer another monomer (which can be acrylate, methacrylate etc.) which polymerizes with the vinylpyrrolidone, where as PVP polymer is former from vinylpyrrolidone monomer only.

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

Art Unit: 1615

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 141-142 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

6. The claims recite one compound and yet the claims are in Markush group format. Deletion of "chosen from" is suggested to overcome the above rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

9. Claims 140-142 and 145-146 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of U. S. Patents 5,783, 657 ('657) and 6, 214, 329 ('329).

Claim construction

The claims recite “making up of eyelashes” which is applying Mascara to eyelashes.

The instant application is claiming a method of making-up eyelashes comprising applying to said eyelashes a mascara composition comprising:

1. Polymer of formula I
2. Volatile solvent (species is isododecane)
3. Water
4. At least one coloring agent
5. At least one preservative

The patent '657 teaches polymer claimed in the instant application (ingredient 1) having gel consistency and these gels are useful in personal care products where in some self-supporting consistency is desired. See the abstract, see cols. 3-4 and see col.3, line 24 where the patent teaches that these polymers are useful in eye-makeup. The eye make up products are Mascara, eye shadow and eyeliner. The patent suggests the usefulness of this polymer in the eye-make up art. The patent at col.17, lines 25-30 teaches that this polymer can be combined with water, colorants and fillers and also teaches adding volatile solvent. The difference between the patent and the instant application is the patent does not teach the specific volatile solvent or preservatives. However, the patent '329 teaches Mascara product using specific volatile oil claimed at col.6, line 60 and at col.9 pigments and under example 1 teaches preservatives, which are the parabens.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to prepare compositions of '408 and use it as Mascara taught by the patent

Art Unit: 1615

along with water, volatile solvents, pigments and use the specific volatile solvent and preservatives of '329 expecting that the compositions are useful as Mascara. The motivation to combine the ingredients flows logically from the art for having been used in the same Mascara art. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to combine the ingredients with the reasonable expectation of success that the compositions which has the polymer has the structured property and when this polymer is combined with isododecane, a hydrocarbon, it gives the formulation a gel-like structure. This gel character is useful to the consumer, because they maintain the shape but flow upon being rubbed and the gel products are often desired in personal care products. This is prima facie case of obviousness.


The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JYOTHSNA A VENKAT whose telephone number is 571-272-0607. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 9:30-7:30:1st and 2nd Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, THURMAN K PAGE can be reached on 571-272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1615

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JYOTHSNA A VENKAT
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1615
